(b) National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad has recommended consumption of only 1-2 gm. of Spirulina of food daily which will provide 2 mgm. of Beta Carotene.

(c) Use of Spirulina as rich source of Vitamin 'A' has not been reported by any country as per information available with Indian Council of Medical Research and this Ministry. The technology for producing Spirulina on large scale is available in India and there is no need to import this technology from outside the country.

Issuance of Employment Notices

859. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the Supreme Court judgement of 21st August, 1990, wherein it has been held that an employment notice that fails to notify the reservation of posts subject-wise and mentions only the total number of reserved posts without indicating the particular posts so reserved subject-wise is bad in law ;

(b) if so, the reasons for which the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi and the PGIMER, Chandigarh have been allowed to continue with the illegal practice of issuing employment notices and making arbitrary appointments without showing the specific reserved vacancies subject/speciality-wise ; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to cancel all the recent advertisements for faculty and resident doctors of these two institutions to set things as per the Supreme Court Judgement ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Both AIIMS and PGIMER are autonomous institutions created by Acts of Parliament. The Institutes follow the decision of their respective Governing/ Institute Bodies. AIIMS Institute Body has decided that the reservation would be against the total number of vacancies of Lecturer/Asstt. Professors without reference speciality/department as is followed by PGIMER, Chandigarh. This decision while obviating the persistent difficulty in filling up the reserved posts of Lecturer/Asstt. Professors in certain disciplines also provided for a better overall representation to the SC/ST. The Supreme Court judgement is not strictly applicable to the appointments/reservations made by AIIMS and PGIMER, Chandigarh.

Pesticides Boon or Bane

860. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report entitled "Pesticides : Boon or Bane" published in the Indian Express (Bombay) of 19th February, 1992 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that in 70 per cent cases of the tested samples of bottled milk in Maharashtra, the amount of DDT and Dieldrin was 4.8 to 6.3 ppm and 1.9 to 6.3 ppm respectively when the permissible limit in milk for both is 0.66 ppm ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the average level of Dieldrin residue in the milk sold by vendors in Bombay was found to be as high as 9.6 ppm ;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the levels of DDT and BHC residues in butter were on an average of 3.6 and 2.6 ppm respectively whereas tolerance limit is 1.25 ppm ; and

(e) if answers to parts (a), (b) and (c) above be in the affirmative, what steps Government have taken in this regard and also to make the people aware of it ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The specific facts from the Government of Maharashtra are not available. However, under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, limits for different pesticides in different foods have been prescribed and action in cases where the limits of different pesticides are found in excess, are taken in accordance with the provisions of the PFA Act, 1954 and PFA Rules, 1955.

Blood Banks in Delhi

861. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of blood banks, commercial and otherwise, functioning in Delhi ;

(b) whether these blood banks are strictly following measures and precautions as required by regulations ; and

(c) if not, what steps Government propose to take to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) There are 26 Blood Banks in Delhi under various agencies. Government 14, Voluntary 1, Private Hospitals 6 and Commercial 5.

(b) and (c) A joint meeting of zonal blood testing centres and blood banks is being called by the Delhi Administration to work out uniform standardised procedures for handling, labelling and transportation of blood samples.

All Blood Banks, whether in the Government or private Sector have to be licenced by the respective Drug Control Administration after inspection by the State. However, Drug Controller (India) has advised State Drug Controllers to inspect blood banks alongwith the officials of Central Drug Control Organisation and blood bank experts, as far as possible.

The existing provisions relating to Blood Banks under the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules specify about the blood donor room, equipments, blood collection procedures, storage of blood including staff and accommodation, labelling etc. Since the existing provision deals mainly with physical requirements, it has been proposed to incorporate a new comprehensive draft amendment which includes testing procedures of blood and blood products, quality control on reagents, qualifications and experience for blood bank personnel, preserving specimen sample of each unit of blood in a pilot tube for 72 hours after transfusion and maintenance of records etc. This amendment also includes joint inspection by Central and State Drug Inspectors prior to grant of licence. The minimum requirements for grant of license to manufacture blood components, like premises, equipments, personnel, testing facilities, storage etc. have been added. The proposed amendment have been published in the Gazette of India on 26th March, 1992 for public comments before the final notification is issued.

Setting Up of Hospitals by Foreigners

862. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that during the Prime Minister's recent visit to the U.S.A. the businessmen there had offered to set up hospitals in India ; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) According to information received from the Prime Minister's Office, no firm offer from Businessmen of USA has been received to set up Hospitals in India.

Foreign Assistance for Family Planning Programme

863. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any foreign assistance for implementing the Family Planning Programmes ;